

FILED
Date _____
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AMENDMENT NO. _____

Signature of Sponsor

AMEND Senate Bill No. 2257*

House Bill No. 2284

by adding the following new sections:

Section _____. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 69-3-107, is amended by adding the following as new subdivisions:

() Conduct, or cause to be conducted, demonstration project(s), to the extent of available funds, of methods of bank stabilization and debris removal in streams in western middle Tennessee to be done as soon as is practicable and a report shall be made back to the general assembly after the performance of the chosen techniques has been observed through at least a full year;

() Conduct, or cause to be conducted, a study or project comparing different techniques for stream bank stabilization and debris removal in streams in western middle Tennessee to be done as soon as possible, either in conjunction with the project mentioned in the previous subdivision, or separately;

() Develop a program of public education regarding simple, practical and affordable techniques for cleaning debris from streams and for stabilizing stream banks including field examples of activities permissible without permits and activities that may be accomplished if permits are obtained;

() Produce a video by not later than January 1, 1999, that shows the above examples, explains the requirements of the law and rules for these activities including the process of applying for a permit, and tells who to call for further assistance, which shall be distributed at no cost to public libraries and agricultural extension services;

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Section _____. Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 67, Chapter 3, Part 1, is amended by adding the following as a new section:

Section _____. There is hereby created an advisory committee to the division of water pollution control to advise and assist the division on procedures and policies concerning the application of the water quality control act to the removal of debris from streams and stabilization of stream banks. The members of the committee shall serve without compensation and shall be appointed by the commissioner to include representatives from local government, farmers, the natural resource conservation service, the University of Tennessee Agricultural Extension Service, and environmental groups. Meetings of this committee shall be held in counties with a large number of situations where these activities are needed.

Section _____. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 69-3-108, is amended by adding the following new subsections:

() The following activities do not require a permit under this section:

- (1) the removal of downed trees by dragging or winching and without grading or reshaping of the stream channel;
- (2) the placement of downed trees on stream banks for erosion protection; and
- (3) the planting of vegetation on stream banks.

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() Unless the applicant agrees otherwise, when an individual landowner applies for a permit for debris removal or stream bank stabilization activities, the commissioner shall either issue or deny the permit or take action scheduling a public hearing on the application within sixty (60) days of receipt of a complete application; provided further, however, that staff of the division will communicate orally or in writing to the applicant within fifteen (15) days of receipt of any such application.

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